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EXAMINER

LUGO, DAVID B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2634

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/310,598

Applicant(s)

SHAEFFER ET AL.

Examiner

David B. Lugo

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 08 October 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 27 and 28 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
3. In response to applicant's argument that the combined teachings of Berthoumieux and Krasner would render the communications device inoperable and thus a §103 rejection cannot be maintained, the test for obviousness is not whether the features of a secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference; nor is it that the claimed invention must be expressly suggested in any one or all of the references. Rather, the test is what the combined teachings of the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981). The teachings of Krasner would have suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the powering down of the analog circuit components to conserve power in the communications device of Berthoumieux.
4. In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

Art Unit: 2634

5. In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Krasner suggests the importance for conserving power when a copious power supply is not available (see column 7, lines 4-5).

Drawings

6. The proposed drawing correction and/or the proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on 10/8/02 have been approved. A proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8. Claims 1-4 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berthoumieux et al. European Patent 0 447 302 (English translation).

9. Regarding claim 1, Berthoumieux et al. teach a mobile radio communication device having analog circuitry (transmitter-receiver component 2, channel selection component 3, analog/digital conversion component 5) and digital signal processing circuitry (processing unit 6) clocked sufficiently fast to generate noise, where the activity of the digital processing unit is

Art Unit: 2634

reduced during transmission or receiving, as stated on lines 1-4 of page 3. Berthoumieux et al. further disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to transmission or receiving of radio signals in order to reduce the activity of the digital processing unit during these instants, as stated in the last sentence of page 3.

10. Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly state that the period during which the digital circuitry processes data is shorter than the time during which the analog circuitry processes data. However, Berthoumieux et al. do state that the speed of the clocks of the digital circuitry is significantly faster than the speed of the clocks of the analog circuitry (see page 3, lines 25-30). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the data throughput of the digital circuitry is faster than the data throughput of the analog circuitry in accordance with the difference in their relative clock speeds.

11. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to set the period during which the digital circuitry processes data to be shorter than the period during which the analog circuitry processes data in order to conserve power consumed by the digital circuitry, since the data throughput for the digital circuitry exceeds the data throughput for the analog circuitry due to the difference in their relative clock speeds, and thus needs less time to process the data.

12. Regarding claim 2, Berthoumieux et al. disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to the transmission and reception of radio signals so the activity of the digital processing unit can be reduced during these instants in order to minimize the disturbances resulting from the DSP operating while a signal is being transmitted or received (see second paragraph starting on page 3), and further teach that a separation is present between the instants of transmission and the instants of receiving as determined by the communication device (see

Art Unit: 2634

final 3 lines of page 3 to page 4 line 9). Therefore, the DSP will operate during the determined instants when a signal is neither being received nor transmitted, considered guard times.

13. Regarding claim 3, Berthoumieux et al. disclose on lines 2-3 of the second paragraph starting on page 2, that signals received by the mobile station are generally low level, but do not expressly disclose that both the analog and digital circuitry are on the same chip.

14. However, it is well known to provide both the analog and digital portions of a circuit on the same chip. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide both the analog and digital circuitry on the same chip in order to conserve space.

15. Regarding claim 4, Berthoumieux et al. disclose that signals received by the mobile station are low level, and further disclose that data is put in memory by the A/D converter 5 (see first paragraph starting on page 4).

16. Regarding claim 7, the first data-communication interval is considered to be substantially greater than the second data-communication interval (see rejection of claim 1 above).

17. Regarding claim 8, it is inherent that the data written to the memory is asynchronous to the rate at which data is read from memory due to the differing operating speeds of the digital and analog components.

18. Regarding claims 9 and 10, it is inherent that the memory can be read from/written to by the analog circuitry and can be written to/read from by the digital circuitry since the device is a radio communications device that both receives and transmits data.

19. Claims 5, 6 and 11-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berthoumieux et al. in view of Krasner U.S. Patent 5,841,396.

Art Unit: 2634

20. Regarding claims 5 and 6, Berthoumieux et al. disclose a mobile radio communications device as described above, but do not expressly teach that power is reduced to the analog circuitry and that it is inhibited from storing data in the memory.

21. Krasner teaches a receiver comprising both analog circuitry (RF to IF Converter 42, ADC 44) and digital circuitry (DSP 32) where the power to the analog circuitry is reduced after data collection is complete (see col. 7 lines 17-20).

22. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of reducing the power to the analog circuitry after data collection, as disclosed by Krasner, in the mobile device of Berthoumieux et al. in order to prolong the life of the battery in the mobile unit, as Krasner discusses the need to conserve power to increase battery life (see col. 8, lines 27-28). Further, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the analog circuitry would be inhibited from performing any operations, including accessing memory, when it is off.

23. Regarding claim 11, Berthoumieux et al. teach a mobile radio communication device having analog circuitry (transmitter-receiver component 2, channel selection component 3, analog/digital conversion component 5) and digital signal processing circuitry (processing unit 6) where the activity of the digital processing unit is reduced during transmission or receiving, as stated on lines 1-4 of page 3. Berthoumieux et al. further disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to transmission or receiving of radio signals in order to reduce the activity of the digital processing unit during these instants, as stated in the last sentence of page 3.

24. Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly state that the period during which the digital circuitry processes data is shorter than the time during which the analog circuitry processes data and that the analog circuitry is effectively disabled while the digital signal processing circuitry is

Art Unit: 2634

operating. However, Berthoumieux et al. do state that the speed of the clocks of the digital circuitry is significantly faster than the speed of the clocks of the analog circuitry (see page 3, lines 25-30). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the data throughput of the digital circuitry is faster than the data throughput of the analog circuitry in accordance with the difference in their relative clock speeds.

25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to set the period during which the digital circuitry processes data to be shorter than the period during which the analog circuitry processes data in order to conserve power consumed by the digital circuitry, since the data throughput for the digital circuitry exceeds the data throughput for the analog circuitry due to the difference in their relative clock speeds, and thus needs less time to process the data.

26. Further, Krasner teaches a receiver comprising both analog circuitry and digital circuitry where the power to the analog circuitry is reduced after data collection is complete and the digital circuitry is operating (see col. 7, lines 17-29).

27. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of Krasner of reducing the power to the analog circuitry after data collection in the mobile device of Berthoumieux et al. to prolong the life of the battery in the mobile unit (see Krasner col. 8, lines 27-28).

28. Regarding claim 12, Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly disclose that both the analog and digital circuitry are on a single chip.

29. However, it is well known to provide both the analog and digital portions of a circuit on the same chip. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide both the analog and digital circuitry on the same chip in order to conserve space.

Art Unit: 2634

30. Regarding claim 13, Berthoumieux et al. disclose that data is put in memory by the A/D converter 5 while the digital processing unit is in a reduced activity mode (see first paragraph starting on page 4).

31. Regarding claims 14 and 15, including the memory to be part of or distinct from the analog circuitry is deemed a design consideration that fails to patentably distinguish over the prior art of record.

32. Regarding claim 16, Berthoumieux et al. disclose in the first two paragraphs on page 2 that high frequency RF signals received by the mobile station are generally low level.

33. Regarding claim 17, the analog circuitry of the mobile radio communications device comprises a transmitter-receiver component 2.

34. Regarding claims 18, 19 and 25, Berthoumieux et al. teach a mobile radio communication device having analog circuitry (transmitter-receiver component 2, channel selection component 3, analog/digital conversion component 5) and digital signal processing circuitry (processing unit 6) where the activity of the digital processing unit is reduced during transmission or receiving, as stated on lines 1-4 of page 3. Berthoumieux et al. further disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to transmission or receiving of radio signals in order to reduce the activity of the digital processing unit during these instants, as stated in the last sentence of page 3.

35. Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly state that the period during which the digital circuitry processes data is shorter than the time during which the analog circuitry processes data, the analog circuitry is effectively disabled while the digital signal processing circuitry is operating, and both the analog and digital circuitry, including the means for disabling the processing of data, are on a single chip. However, Berthoumieux et al. do state that the speed of

Art Unit: 2634

the clocks of the digital circuitry is significantly faster than the speed of the clocks of the analog circuitry (see page 3, lines 25-30). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the data throughput of the digital circuitry is faster than the data throughput of the analog circuitry in accordance with the difference in their relative clock speeds.

36. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to set the period during which the digital circuitry processes data to be shorter than the period during which the analog circuitry processes data in order to conserve power consumed by the digital circuitry, since the data throughput for the digital circuitry exceeds the data throughput for the analog circuitry due to the difference in their relative clock speeds, and thus needs less time to process the data.

37. Further, Krasner teaches a receiver comprising both analog circuitry and digital circuitry where the power to the analog circuitry is reduced after data collection is complete and the digital circuitry is operating (see col. 7, lines 17-29).

38. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of Krasner of reducing the power to the analog circuitry after data collection in the mobile device of Berthoumieux et al. to prolong the life of the battery in the mobile unit (see Krasner col. 8, lines 27-28).

39. Further, it is well known to provide both the analog and digital portions of a circuit on the same chip. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide both the analog and digital circuitry on the same chip, including the means for disabling the processing of data, in order to conserve space.

40. Regarding claims 20-22, it is inherent that both the digital signal processing circuitry and the analog circuitry are configured and arranged to receive and transmit data.

Art Unit: 2634

41. Regarding claims 23 and 24, Berthoumieux et al. teach a mobile radio communication device having analog circuitry (transmitter-receiver component 2, channel selection component 3, analog/digital conversion component 5) for processing and storing data and digital signal processing circuitry (processing unit 6) where the activity of the digital processing unit is reduced during transmission or receiving, as stated on lines 1-4 of page 3. Berthoumieux et al. further disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to transmission or receiving of radio signals in order to reduce the activity of the digital processing unit during these instants, as stated in the last sentence of page 3.

42. Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly state that the period during which the digital circuitry processes data is shorter than the time during which the analog circuitry processes data and that additional data in the streams of data presented to the analog circuitry are disregarded while the digital signal processing circuitry is operating. However, Berthoumieux et al. do state that the speed of the clocks of the digital circuitry is significantly faster than the speed of the clocks of the analog circuitry (see page 3, lines 25-30). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the data throughput of the digital circuitry is faster than the data throughput of the analog circuitry in accordance with the difference in their relative clock speeds.

43. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to set the period during which the digital circuitry processes data to be shorter than the period during which the analog circuitry processes data in order to conserve power consumed by the digital circuitry, since the data throughput for the digital circuitry exceeds the data throughput for the analog circuitry due to the difference in their relative clock speeds, and thus needs less time to process the data.

Art Unit: 2634

44. Further, Krasner teaches a receiver comprising both analog circuitry and digital circuitry where the power to the analog circuitry is reduced after data collection is complete and the digital circuitry is operating (see col. 7, lines 17-29).

45. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of Krasner of reducing the power to the analog circuitry after data collection in the mobile device of Berthoumieux et al. to prolong the life of the battery in the mobile unit (see Krasner col. 8, lines 27-28). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that any data presented to the analog circuitry during the period when it is powered down would be disregarded.

46. Regarding claim 26, processing data with the analog circuitry while the digital signal processing circuitry is in the reduced activity mode for at least ninety percent of a time period and processing data with the digital signal processing circuitry for no more than the remaining portion of the period is deemed a design consideration that fails to patentably distinguish over the prior art of record as the percentage of time that the both the analog and digital circuitry operate will depend on the speed of the DSP implemented in the design relative to the speed of the analog circuitry.

47. Regarding claim 27, Berthoumieux et al. teach a mobile radio communication device having analog circuitry (transmitter-receiver component 2, channel selection component 3, analog/digital conversion component 5) for processing and storing data and digital signal processing circuitry (processing unit 6) where the activity of the digital processing unit is reduced during transmission or receiving, as controlled by time control component 4 (see paragraph bridging pages 2-3). Berthoumieux et al. further disclose means of detection 8 of the instants corresponding to the transmission and reception of radio signals so the activity of the

Art Unit: 2634

digital processing unit can be reduced during these instants in order to minimize the disturbances resulting from the DSP operating while a signal is being transmitted or received (see second paragraph starting on page 3), and further teach that a separation is present between the instants of transmission and the instants of receiving as determined by the communication device (see final 3 lines of page 3 to page 4 line 9). Therefore, the DSP will operate during the determined instants when a signal is neither being received nor transmitted, considered guard times.

48. Berthoumieux et al. do not expressly state that during the guard period while the digital signal processing circuitry processes data, the processing of data by the analog circuitry is effectively disabled.

49. Krasner teaches a receiver comprising both analog circuitry and digital circuitry where the power to the analog circuitry is reduced after data collection is complete and the digital circuitry is operating, thereby effectively disabling the analog circuitry from processing data (see col. 7, lines 17-29).

50. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of Krasner of reducing the power to the analog circuitry after data collection in the mobile device of Berthoumieux et al. to prolong the life of the battery in the mobile unit (see Krasner col. 8, lines 27-28).

51. Regarding claim 28, Berthoumieux et al. disclose lowering the speed of functioning of the clocks of the digital processing unit (see first paragraph starting on page 3).

Art Unit: 2634

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **David B. Lugo** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-0954**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Stephen Chin**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4714**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

dbl
6/2/03


STEPHEN CHIN
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